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For President---1912 WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT, Of Ohio.

MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES.

If the Latin American republics have been suspicious of the attitude of the United States toward the weaker nations of this hemisphere the conduct of this government in regard to the turbulent republic of Mexico should have the effect of reassuring them. The United States has plainly indicated that this nation has not the slightest desire to take advantage of the troubles of Mexico, but on the contrary, is most solicitous that the sister republic in the south should find a way out of its difficulties. The people of the United States are merely anxious that Mexico should arrive at some solution of its economic problems within the shortest possible space of time. There is no wish on the part of the United States to intervene since such an action would be misinterpreted, not only by some of the people of Mexico but by the inhabitants of all the Latin American republics whose suspicions of the motives of the United States have been cunningly encouraged by certain European nations, which resent the Monroe doctrine and the honest, well-defined attitude of the United States toward the weaker nations on this continent.

United States troops have been mobilized on the Mexico border to prevent a recurrence of incidents such as happened during the rebellion against Diaz when American citizens were shot in their own territory. There will be no United States troops sent across the border unless it is absolutely necessary in order to prevent a long period of anarchy, murder and savagery in Mexico. Neither the present administration nor the American people are keen on foreign conquests. All that this country wishes is that Mexico will be quickly restored to peace and sanity. Whatever the United States is doing or may do in regard to Mexico is inspired by these motives. It will not be long before all of the Latin American republics realize that the United States government stands first, last and always for fair play for the weaker nations of this continent.

THE LACK OF SYSTEM.

Lack of system may be as bad for a politician as for a business. Had Colonel Roosevelt kept a well indexed letter book or file of his voluminous correspondence he would have found under "Third Term" his letter of June 27, 1911, which is now giving him a bad quarter of an hour. A wise old man wrote nearly two centuries ago, "say what you will, do what you please, but never put your pen to paper," which is only putting in another way the advice given by a prophet of old, "Would that mine enemy had written a book." Instability of character and purpose is disclosed by the acts of a man who last June deliberately set down in black and white, "I have said always that I would not be a candidate in 1912 myself and that I had no intention of taking any part in the nomination for or against any candidate," and who, eight months later, says: "My hat is in the ring."

The Chinese treaties of peace with each other, in Peking and San Francisco, appear to have failed of permanency. American and European troops are to attend to the matter in Peking.

The Republican Progressive League of Texas appears to be really progressive. It has declared for Taft and rejected the appeal for the people to issue a spontaneous call for Roosevelt.

A movement has been started to make Baltimore a dry town. If it succeeds before June 25, the national democratic convention is likely to adjourn in Allentown, Pa.

It is reported that La Follette still is a candidate for the presidential nomination. Another report has it that Roosevelt, also, remains in the race, but this is doubtful.

Now even the democrats are fighting among themselves over the San Francisco mint. Let 'em fight, so long as the old coin factory keeps its wheels a-moving.

SIMPLIFY THE TARIFF.

President Taft stands firm in asking congress to revise the tariff in the light of the reports which have been made and are still to be made by the tariff board, and to reform the schedules. The tariff cannot be revised without careful study, and the president has all the best of the argument because congress put a whip in his hand when it sent up for his approval the muddled chemical schedule which had been tacked on to the cotton tariff bill.

It appears to the average layman that tariff schedules could be simplified very much and still attain the results that the maddening complexities of the existing ones are supposed to produce. The endless lists of appraisers' decisions and appeals to higher courts prove the need for greater simplicity in the law and the schedules. In no other country is there much of this kind, but in the New York custom house and appraiser's stores hardly a week passes without bringing forth some new twist in appraisals that has to be straightened out through appeals.

Take the case of containers. One day importers read that metal drums are free, the next day they are manufactures of iron and steel, and on the third day they are dutiable at the same rate as the goods they contain.

Reading the reports from day to day, it seems that there must be at least a hundred different classifications and rates of duty on containers. No importer knows where he stands. Suppose that he buys oil in Europe and it comes in square cans one time and in round cans the next. He finds that the duty is not the same in each case, but he never finds out the reason why this is the case.

To paraphrase what Lincoln once said about juries, "Even Providence cannot foretell what the decision of a New York customs appraiser will be."

Surely we can have a protective tariff or a tariff for revenue only, and still have a tariff that can be understood. President Taft has said many wise things about simplifying the procedure of the courts. He might also say something about simplifying the tariff. It would help business and tend to check fraud.—New York Commercial.

NEW YORK SET GOOD EXAMPLE.

Highly gratifying is the announcement that New York state will appropriate the sum of \$900,000 to construct a building and maintain an exhibit at the Panama-Pacific exposition, and also send a full regiment of the national guard to represent the Empire state at the great world's fair. It is not alone the magnitude of the arrangements for the New York exhibit that brings joy to the Pacific coast, for the early announcement of the purposes of the richest commonwealth in American means much to the exposition. Besides aiding materially in the plans of the board of directors to keep the constructive work well in advance of all former enterprises of this character, in relation to the time at their disposal, but undoubtedly it will have the effect of causing other states to emulate the example set by New York. It is not improbable that, before many months shall pass, the movement will resolve itself into a race between the states to be earliest on the ground.

The ultimate effect of the appropriation, of which \$200,000 is to be made available in the near future for the erection of a building, will be of tremendous import to the exposition. For a longer period than will be the case with other states, the people of New York will be watching the progress of their own building on the grounds of the world's greatest exposition. Nothing could do so much to fix the minds of the largest population within state boundaries on the exposition. It is to be hoped that other states, in the near future, will follow the example of New York, both in sending delegations to San Francisco for the purpose of selecting sites and in making early appropriations for the different state exhibits.—S. F. Post.

PICKING WINNERS.

Whenever a man at the head of a business of any importance bewails the impossibility of getting the right men to do the work he faults, as a rule, lies at his own door. Either he is a poor judge of men or he does not know how to handle or direct them, or perhaps he is unwilling to pay the right man the right price. The faculty of selecting men is one of the chief elements of success on a large scale. No one man can do everything himself. This faculty made Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller. Neither one of them knows the scientific details of steel or oil production, but they knew how "to pick the winners."

Occasionally it is hard to find a man with technical knowledge and experience in a certain line, but in most cases the right man can be picked and developed out of the material at hand. The man who applies himself to his work and masters all its details is sure to rise, but he does not always rise in the house where he gained his experience. The man at the top may be a poor judge of character and performance; in a word, his job may be too big for him; and his rivals in business profit by taking away from him his most valuable aids, while he sits in sackcloth and ashes bemoaning the scarcity, when he does not know it when he sees it. While he looks with envy on those who have been able to surround themselves with lieutenants of the right kind he often fails to see that those valuable lieutenants of the right kind he often fails to see that those valuable lieutenants previously served as exiles in his own establishment.

The old Seal Rock house on the ocean beach of San Francisco is to be converted into a health resort. So long as it is not to be a moral health resort it is all right. If it were converted into anything like that the rafters might refuse to support the roof.

The preventive measures to keep off the rabies seem to be more troublesome than the disease itself.

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